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**TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP  
of the  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS**

**November 25, 2008  
Minutes**

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**THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY OF THE MEETING OF THE TRANSPORTATION CONFORMITY WORKING GROUP. AN AUDIOCASSETTE TAPE OF THE ACTUAL MEETING IS AVAILABLE FOR LISTENING IN SCAG'S OFFICE.**

The Meeting of the Transportation Conformity Working Group was held at the SCAG office in Los Angeles.

**In Attendance:**

Alameida, Stacy	MTA
Alley, Brian	RBF Consulting
Gainor, Mike	MTA
Litschi, Michael	OCTA
Shavit, Avital	MTA
Torres, Eddie	RBF Consulting
Williams, Leann	Caltrans, District 7

**SCAG Staff**

Asuncion, John  
Kuo, Ryan  
Luo, Rongsheng  
Sherwood, Arnie

**Via Teleconference:**

Alvarez, Grace	RCTC
Brady, Mike	Caltrans Headquarters
Clymo, Amy	CH2M
Fagan, Paul	Caltrans, District 8
Johnson, Sandy	Caltrans, District 11
Knox, Michelle	FHWA
Kratovil, Aimee	FHWA
Lopez, Rosa	IVAG
Luis, Monica	ARB
O'Connor, Karina	EPA, Region 9
Walecka, Carla	TCA
Yoon, Andrew	Caltrans, District 7

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**1.0    CALL TO ORDER**

Michael Litschi, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

**2.0    PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There were no comments.

**3.0    CONSENT CALENDAR**

3.1    Approval Item

- 3.1.1    TCWG October 28, 2008 Meeting Minutes  
The minutes were approved.

**4.0    INFORMATION ITEMS**

4.1    RTP Update

Ryan Kuo, SCAG, reported the following:

- Staff has received and responded to comments on RTP Amendment #1 from three sources including the U.S. EPA, the City of Irvine, and Caltrans District 8. The comments were not related to conformity.
- The proposed final RTP Amendment will be presented on December 4th to SCAG's Transportation Committee (TC), Energy and Environment Committee (EEC), and Regional Council (RC) for approval and adoption.

4.2    RTIP Update

John Asuncion, SCAG, reported the following:

- The 2008 RTIP had been approved by the Federal Agencies.
- The 2008 RTIP Amendment #1 is expected to be approved on December 4<sup>th</sup> by SCAG's TC, EEC, and RC.
- Staff is currently working on 2008 RTIP Amendment #2 and the amendment is anticipated to be posted in December.

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4.3 Review of PM Hot Spot Interagency Review Forms

- 1) **RIV031208** – Reconstruction of the westbound ramps at the Interstate 10 and Monterey Avenue Interchange in the City of Palm Desert.

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

- 2) **RIV011212** – Pavement rehabilitation, restriping, sidewalk construction, curb and gutters, retaining wall, traffic signal interconnect cable, minor signal upgrades and synchronization, and limited widening/gap closure in Riverside County.

It was determined that this is not a POAQC.

4.4 Review of Qualitative PM Hot Spot Analysis

**State Route 79 Realignment Project: Domenigoni Parkway to Gilman Springs Road** - The analysis has been updated to incorporate comments from TCWG.

It was determined that this is not a POAQC pending EPA confirmation.

4.5 SCWG Meeting Summary

Mike Brady, Caltrans Headquarters, reported the following highlights of the last SCWG meeting. The following summarizes the major points:

- SB375: SB 375 is not conformity and is supposed to not interfere with the normal conformity process. A lot of detail is still being worked out and many meetings are being held among Caltrans, ARB, and MPOs. The appropriate modeling tools are still not clear. The next RTP under SB375 will be in 2012.
- Federal updates: The new lead standards will not have impact on conformity in the SCAG region; PM2.5 implementation rule is expected to be ready by the end of the year; Quantitative Analysis Guide for PM Hot Spots will be synchronized with the MOVES (Motor Vehicle Emission Simulator Model) release sometime in later 2009. EPA is working with ARB about EMFAC transition so there may be guidance for California sooner; Guidance for conformity SIPs and TCM substitution may be

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released at the end of the year; Sub-Part I area re-designations and classifications are due out sometime in December or January; No firm schedule for the 2008 Ozone Implementation Rule but the State's area recommendations are due in March 2009.

- SIP: ARB is planning a SIP revision in 2009 to reflect the truck rule implementation; The 2006 PM<sub>2.5</sub> standards will trigger a need for new conformity determination in the SCAG region; Ozone and PM<sub>10</sub> SIPs are being developed for Imperial County.
- The next SCWG meeting will be held on May 20<sup>th</sup> at the SCAG office in downtown Los Angeles

**4.6     Conformity SIP Update**

Karina O'Conner, EPA, stated that she had begun to review the MOU and rules for Ventura County. Ms. O'Conner suggested that SCAG review and update the Ventura County MOU to meet conformity requirements of SAFETEA-LU before submitting to EPA.

**4.7     TCM Working Subgroup**

Rongsheng Luo, SCAG, stated that 15 members had signed up for the subgroup. The purpose of the group is to discuss the more technical sides of TCM issues. The group will meet on an ad-hoc basis and the first meeting will be held after January 1, 2009.

**4.8     Next TCWG Meeting Date**

The December meeting will be cancelled. The next meeting of the TCWG will be held on January 27, 2009.

**5.0     INFORMATION SHARING**

Michael Litschi announced that Sandy Johnson, Caltrans District 11, will be retiring at the end of the year.

Mike Brady informed the group of an interesting conference he had attended in Albany, New York which drew participants from 40 states. Mr. Brady stated that most states are doing more or less what California is doing in terms of PM Hot Spot analysis. However,

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Virginia is doing it without inter-agency consultation because the inter-agency consultation is only in the guidance, not in the rule. Mr. Brady stated he would look more closely into that to see whether it would lead to any changes.

**6.0    ADJOURNMENT**

Michael Litschi adjourned the meeting at 10:50 a.m.